(c) what are the names of the State Governments which are not averse to this policy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Forest Cover

245. SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for there being only about 14 per cent of forest cover as against a desirable 33 per cent in the country; and

(b) which areas are most affected by such inadequate forest cover, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Acute biotic pressure on forest resources and diversion of forest land to non-forestry uses have resulted in lower forest cover than envisaged in the National Forest Policy of 1952.

(b) The National Remote Sensing Agency has estimated the forest cover as less than 14 per cent of the geographical area during the period 1980—82 in Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana; Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan; Tamil Nadu; Uttar Pradesh; West Bengal and Union Territory of Delhi.

दक्षिण दिल्ली में दक्षिण पुरी पुलिस चौकी में एक युवक को पीटा जाना

246. **श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक :** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 6 जून, 1987 के "पंजाब केसरी" समाचार-पत्र के दिल्ली संस्करण में इस आशय का समाचार छपा था कि दक्षिण दिल्ली में अम्बेडकर नगर थाने के अंतर्गत दक्षिण पुरी पुलिस चौकी में खानपुर के अशोक कुमार नाम के एक युवक की निर्ममता से पिटाई करके उसे गंभीर रूप से घायल कर दिया गया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस घटना में अंतर्ग्रस्त दोषी पुलिस कर्मियों के विरुद्ध कोई कार्यवाही की गई है ; और

(ग) यदि उपर्युक्त भाग (ख) का उत्तर 'हां' हो, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम्) : (क) जी हां, श्रीमन् ।

(ख) और (ग) अतिरिक्त पुलिस उपायुक्त, दक्षिण जिला द्वारा एक जांच की गई । परन्तु आरोप साबित नहीं किये जा सके । अतः किसी पुलिस कर्मचारी के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता है ?

विवेक विहार के थानाध्यक्ष द्वारा एक सामाजिक कार्यकर्त्ता को परेशान किया जाना

247. **श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक :** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विवेक विहार, शाहदरा, दिल्ली-32 के थानाध्यक्ष द्वारा श्री अतर सिंह, सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता और 28/171-सी, कस्तूरबा नगर, दिल्ली 32 के

निवासी को यह धमकी दी जा रही है कि उन्हें किसी भी आरोप में निकट भविष्य में थाने में बन्द कर दिया जायेगा ;

(ख) क्या इस मामले की जांच पड़ताल कराने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है, और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम्) : (क) जी नहीं, श्रीमन् ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Security belt on Western Border

248. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have discarded the idea of creating a Security Belt on the western border;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, by when the Security Belt is likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) A proposal in this regard was being considered in pursuance of a Resolution passed by the Rajya Sabha on August 13, 1986, under Artcle 249 of the Constitution, enabling Parliament to make laws in respect of matters enumerated therein. Since then a number of developments have taken place and the effect of the Resolution mentioned earlier would expire on August 12, 1987. Punjab is under President's Rules. The Government do not, therefore, propose to pursue the matter at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Problems of Powerloom Sector

249. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems beign faced by the powerloom sector due to the new Textile policy;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to bail out the powerloom industry from the situation especially in Maharashtra; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the Texile policy as it is creating problems for the powerloom sector and also for the cotton growers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The production figures indicate that there has been a steady increase in the production of cloth in the decentralised powerloom sector since the announcement of the Textile Policy. The levels of weaving activity in particular regions change from time to time depending upon market conditions, availability of electric supply and economic decisions of the powerloom owners. The Textile Policy has not created problems either for the powerloom sector or for the cotton growers.

Irrigation Projects from Maharashtra pending Clearance

250. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the